

Dear FCC Commissioners & Staff:

We are a full service ISP serving 6 area counties with dial-up numbers in each. The battle Sprint, our local telephone provider, demands us to go through to order and then put into service takes a long time. After Sprint says the lines are ready to use, lots of times they are not. This constant obstacle by the local copper wire owner, Sprint, has caused loss of otherwise satisfied, long-term customers thinking, it is us, the internet provider not keeping up with new equipment development and installation. We have always entailed new and updated equipment before it was really needed to counter the increase in business. The market for dial-up will be around for quite a long time, but the demand for high-speed, DSL is here NOW. Most ISP's do not want to spend the large amounts of monies demanded to make DSL available to the residential market. The business market has a better chance to absorb the high costs. Most residential customers can not afford the dollar amounts needed to be charged by local ISP's to supply DSL without the help of competition in place by local ISP's. The Bells know this and will not help in any way, in fact, they demand an ISP to go through steps which the Bells don't. This is done to discourage independent ISP's trying to make available DSL. Local ISP's like us are able to provide service at a price less than cable or the Bells.

We are also able to offer more options using REAL people than the big Bells because we realize the benefit of personal service. If we as a small, local, independently owned and operated ISP are to survive, the so called FCC had better WAKE-UP to our problems. As a government agency should have all citizens best interest as their most important goal, it would appear the FCC has fallen under the spell of BIG BUSINESS. If the big companies are all that is available, the everyday consumer will not be the target and their money will not go very far! In business, it is a known fact that competition is the best for the consumer. Prices will not go down if we don't have a choice. Broadband access is what will keep this great country the leader of this earth and the everyday citizen must be able to afford our services if we are to remain the greatest country to live and raise our children.

The internet is world-wide, we must be able to access it. Without competition we will be the losers and the FCC will have this monkey on their backs. HELP US FCC, please do not let our children's children pay the price of not looking into the future. Do not let Big Business dictate how to do business, give the little guy the help we need. We are the real backbone of this country. HR 1572 is a prime example of what may lie ahead for small ISP's. We are but a small rock in the yard, yet we do deal with the everyday problem of getting high-speed internet service to rural areas. We can only teach the people that have availability. What about the vast rest? We, the independent ISP's want the chance to provide high-speed internet service to everyone in our area, but we can not. The big Bells do all they are able to discourage us independents from offering what the big Bells do better. The FCC has the ability to help, will they? I sincerely hope the past will not repeat itself by the FCC not helping the everyday independent business owner when they REALLY need it's help. It is my heart-felt hope that the FCC will take what all of us

Sincerely,

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